

Act, was the first piece of legislation I introduced as a newly-elected member of Congress, just two months into my first term as Representative from Connecticut's Second District.

However special this legislation may be to me, I would be remiss not to thank the group of stakeholders—in particular Anthony Irving and Dr. David Bingham—who, along with many others, really got this project off the ground. The care and concern of these residents, town boards, area land trusts, and river-fronting landowners led to the development of the Eightmile River Wild & Scenic Study Committee. Once a study was completed, citizens from all three towns voted to support the Eightmile River Watershed Management Plan and Wild and Scenic designation. Each town's land use commission, the Boards of Selectmen, and the study committee followed suit, making this vision a reality.

The Wild and Scenic designation is truly a high honor—one that is applied to less than one quarter of one percent of the nation's rivers. We in eastern Connecticut are grateful to have such a small piece of Eden in our backyard and even more grateful for those who have pledged to protect it for the past ten years. I'm confident it will be in good hands for years to come.

TRIBUTE TO MARNA AND JOHN
BECKER

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 16, 2018

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Marna and John Becker of Afton, Iowa, on the very special occasion of their 60th wedding anniversary.

Marna and John's lifelong commitment to each other and their family truly embodies our Iowa values. As they reflect on their 60th anniversary, may their commitment grow even stronger, as they continue to love, cherish, and honor one another for many years to come.

Mr. Speaker, I commend this great couple on their 60th year together and I wish them many more. I ask that my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives join me in congratulating them on this momentous occasion and in wishing them both nothing but continued success.

CONGRATULATING ERIK FENDER

HON. MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 16, 2018

Ms. MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM of New Mexico. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Erik Fender of San Ildefonso Pueblo in New Mexico for his role in the Pueblo Pottery Mug project and his success as a Native artist.

The Pueblo Pottery Mug project started as a collaboration between five Pueblo artists and the first Pueblo-owned Starbucks in New Mex-

ico. The mugs were first sold in 2016 at the Starbucks store in Albuquerque. Each mug was hand-crafted by a different Pueblo artist to celebrate the opening of the new store and to symbolize the collaboration between New Mexico Pueblos and Starbucks. After quickly selling out of the unique mugs—selling over 6,000 mugs—the Shumakolowa gift shop collaborated with the artists to sell mugs at their location in the Indian Pueblo Cultural Center.

Mr. Fender learned how to make pottery from his mother and grandmother, who are renowned potters in their own right. His work is profoundly influenced by the skills that they taught him. Hailing from a long lineage of potters and artists, Mr. Fender teaches his son the pottery traditions of his family.

Mr. Fender's work is known for experimenting with and using different designs and techniques, including traditional and contemporary styles on polychrome, black-on-black, and black-on-red carving. He adds his own personal touch when he makes his clay, texturing it and adding stones for a unique finish.

Mr. Speaker, I applaud Erik Fender for being a part of the Pueblo Pottery Mug project. This project has given the community, as well as visitors to New Mexico, an opportunity to appreciate usable pieces of art that are inspired by Native culture and traditions. I look forward to seeing this project continue to flourish and support talented Native artists from Pueblos throughout New Mexico.

HONORING SYLVIA GOMEZ GARCIA
WITH CALIFORNIA'S THIRD DISTRICT
WOMAN OF THE YEAR
AWARD

HON. JOHN GARAMENDI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 16, 2018

Mr. GARAMENDI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Sylvia Gomez Garcia, better known as La Maestra, as a woman of the year. She is a dedicated teacher at Beamer Elementary School and lifelong resident of Woodland, California. Ms. Gomez Garcia's exceptional passion for teaching has created a positive setting for learning and growth for each one of the students she teaches. Ms. Gomez Garcia teaches children in both English and Spanish at a dual immersion school where her positive teaching methods create an environment of equity where students feel safe to learn. Many of her students are recent immigrants, some children are from families with established residences in Woodland, and many are from families who are underserved. Ms. Gomez Garcia's bilingual teaching methods place all children on an equal footing where each come out with bilingual proficiency in reading, writing, and speaking. Beyond her skills and acumen, Ms. Gomez Garcia is an exceptional mother and dedicated wife, a humanitarian and active community member. The positive impact she has had on the lives of her students cannot be overstated.

HONORING BRYCE HAZEN

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 16, 2018

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Bryce Hazen. Bryce is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 404, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Bryce has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Bryce has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community. Most notably, Bryce has contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project. Bryce painted inside Jewel Church in Kirksville, Missouri.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Bryce for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

HONORING KING RIDGE
FOUNDATION

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 16, 2018

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor King Ridge Foundation on the tenth anniversary of its founding. King Ridge Foundation has done incredible work for at-risk youth in our community and has been vital to the recovery from the October 2017 Wildfires.

King Ridge Foundation was founded in 2009 by Levi Leipheimer and Carlos Perez to help at-risk youth. Since then, the Foundation has raised over 2 million dollars for this cause. A portion of this funding has come from Mr. Leipheimer's annual Gran Fondo, a bike ride known as the best day out on two wheels that brings people together from around the world, which also celebrates its tenth anniversary this year. Through the Gran Fondo and the work of King Ridge Foundation, Mr. Leipheimer has made our community stronger and more connected. He is dedicated to Santa Rosa and Sonoma County, as he has shown through his commitment to improving the lives of those in our community.

King Ridge Foundation's main focus is supporting at-risk youth by raising awareness and money. The Foundation partners with local organizations including Social Advocates for Youth, Forget Me Not Farm and The B-Rad Foundation.

In times of disaster King Ridge Foundation expands its mission to assist people in returning to normalcy. During the devastating wildfires our community has faced, King Ridge Foundation did just that. After the 2015 Valley Fire, King Ridge Foundation raised more than \$60,000 for relief efforts in Lake County. After the October 2017 Wildfires, King Ridge Foundation joined with Russian River Brewing Company in the Sonoma Pride partnership. The partnership has raised over 1.1 million